

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content, the method comprising:

using a URL address of digital content on a server system, ~~obtaining~~ to obtain licensing information from a location separate from the location of the digital content; and

examining the licensing information to confirm that the content is licensed to be provided by a source identified by the URL address of the content.

2. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 1, wherein examining the licensing information to confirm that the content is licensed further includes:

determining a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information; and

comparing the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the URL address of the content.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 2, wherein comparing further includes:

confirming that the content is licensed by determining that the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information corresponds to the URL address of the content.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 3, wherein the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information

corresponds to the URL address of the content when the URL pattern matches the URL address of the content.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 3₁ further including:

responding to a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information that corresponds to the URL address of the content by directing a client system to process and render the content.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 1₁ wherein using the URL address of the content to obtain licensing information further includes:

locating licensing information on the server by determining at least one potential location for the licensing information on the server based on the URL address of the content.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 6₁ wherein the at least one potential location determined for the licensing information is through a root directory on the server or through a subdirectory on the server where the content resides.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 7₁ further comprising:

searching through the root directory for the licensing information.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 8₁ wherein

if licensing information is not found through the root directory or if licensing information found through the root directory does not correspond to the content, the method further including:

searching through the subdirectory where the content resides on the server for the licensing information.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 1, wherein obtaining licensing information is in response to a request, by a client system, to download the content from the server.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 10, further comprising:

responding to the request by:

delivering the content to the client system;

confirming that a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information corresponds to the URL address of the content; and

in response to confirming that the URL pattern corresponds to the URL addresses of the content, processing and rendering the content on ~~this~~ the client system.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 1, wherein the licensing information includes a licensing key.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 12, wherein the license key is an encrypted text file.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 12, further including:

overriding any other license key on the server when the license key is located through a root directory of the URL address of the content.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 1₁ wherein examining the licensing information further includes:
determining whether the licensing information has been altered.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 1₁ wherein the licensing information further includes information pertaining to restrictions on processing of the content.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 1₁ wherein the licensing information further includes information about a feature of the content that is enabled or disabled.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing licensed digital content according to Claim 2₁ wherein the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information indicates one or more URL addresses of licensed content.

19. (Original) A computer program product comprising:
computer executable instructions which respond to a request to download licensed digital content by:
using a URL address of the content to obtain licensing information for the content from a location which is separate from the location of the content; and
processing the licensing information to confirm that the content is licensed to be provided by a source identified by the URL address of the content.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~
according to Claim 19, wherein the instructions for processing the licensing information
to confirm that the content is licensed further ~~include~~ includes instructions to:

determine a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information; and
compare the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the URL
address of the content.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~
according to Claim 20, wherein the instructions to compare further include:

instructions to confirm that the content is licensed by determining that the URL
pattern referenced in the licensing information corresponds to the URL address of the
content.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~
according to Claim 21, wherein the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information
corresponds to the URL address of the content when the URL pattern matches the URL
address of the content.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~
according to Claim 21, further including:

responding to a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information that
corresponds to the URL address of the content by causing a client system to process
the content.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~
according to Claim 19, wherein the instructions for using the URL address of the content
to obtain licensing information further include:

instructions that locate licensing information on a server by determining at least one potential location for the licensing information on the server based on the URL address of the content.

25. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~ according to Claim 24, wherein the potential location determined for the licensing information is located through a root directory on the server or through a subdirectory on the server where the content resides.

26. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~ according to Claim 25, further comprising:

instructions for searching through the root directory for the licensing information.

27. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~ according to Claim 25, wherein if the licensing information is not found through the root directory or if the licensing information found through the root directory does not correspond to the content, further including:

searching through the subdirectory where the content resides on the server for the licensing information.

28. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~ according to Claim 19, wherein the instructions for obtaining licensing information are responsive to a request, from a client system, to download the content from a server.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~ according to Claim 28, further comprising:

instructions for responding to the request by:

delivering the content to the client;

confirming that a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information corresponds to the URL address of the content; and

responding to confirming that the URL pattern corresponds to the URL address of the content by causing the client to process the content.

30. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~ according to Claim 19, wherein the licensing information further includes a license key.

31. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~ according to Claim 30, further including:

overriding any other license key on the server when the license key is located through a root directory of the URL address of the content.

32. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~as described in~~ according to Claim 19, wherein the instructions for processing the licensing information further include:

instructions that determine whether there are any restrictions on processing of the content.

33. (Original) A software system to access licensed digital content comprising:
a communications handler responsive to a request to download licensed digital content from a server computer system; and

a licensing manager, in communication with the communications handler, which uses a URL address of the content on the server to obtain licensing information from the server, the licensing manager examining the licensing information to confirm that the content is licensed to be provided by a source identified by the URL address of the content.

34. (Currently Amended) A software system as ~~in~~ according to Claim 33,
wherein the communications handler or the licensing manager is associated with a
runtime environment executing on a client system.

35. (Currently Amended) A software system as ~~in~~ according to Claim 33,
wherein a client system initiates the request to download the content from the server.

36. (Currently Amended) A software system as ~~in~~ according to Claim 33,
wherein the licensing manager examines the licensing information to confirm that the
content is licensed by:

determining a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information; and
comparing the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the URL
address of the content.

37. (Currently Amended) A software system as ~~in~~ according to Claim 36,
wherein the comparing further includes:

confirming, by the licensing manager, that the content is licensed when the URL
pattern referenced in the licensing information corresponds to the URL address of the
content.

38. (Currently Amended) A software system as ~~in~~ according to Claim 37,
wherein the licensing manager responds to a URL pattern referenced in the licensing
information which corresponds to the URL address of the content by directing a client
system to process the content.

39. (Currently Amended) A software system as ~~in~~ according to Claim 33,
wherein the licensing manager obtains the licensing information by determining at least

one potential location for the licensing information on the server, the potential location being based on the URL address of the content.

40. (Currently Amended) A software system ~~as in~~ according to Claim 39, wherein the potential location is through a root directory on the server or a subdirectory on the server which is the same directory where the content is stored.

41. (Currently Amended) A software system ~~as in~~ according to Claim 40, wherein the licensing manager further includes:

a search routine to search through the root directory for the licensing information.

42. (Currently Amended) A software system ~~as in~~ according to Claim 41, wherein if the licensing manager determines that licensing information is not found through the root directory or that licensing information found through the root directory does not correspond to the content, the search routine is directed to search the subdirectory which is the same directory where the content is stored.

43. (Currently Amended) A software system ~~as in~~ according to Claim 33, wherein the licensing manager further includes:

logic for forgoing processing of any other licensing information on the server when the licensing information is located through a root directory of the URL address of the content.

44. (Currently Amended) A software system ~~as in~~ according to Claim 33, wherein the licensing manager examining the licensing information further includes determining whether there are any restrictions on processing of the content.

45. (Original) A system of accessing licensed digital content comprising:

means for using a URL address of digital content on a server system to obtain licensing information from a location separate from the location of the digital content;
and

means for examining the licensing information to confirm that the content is licensed to be provided by a source identified by the URL address of the content.